

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 LAB-04 SIL-01

PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 W

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R 310750Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2104

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0367

BEIRUT FOR CIVIL AIR ATTACHE

CASABLANCA FOR CIVIL AIR ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN AIRLINES DISPUTE WITH AIR FRANCE AND BOEING ROLE

REF: TRIPOLI 348; TUNIS 1806

1. IN RESPONSE TO AN URGENT LIBYAN REQUEST SENT TO BOEING
PRESIDENT WILSON, A BOEING REP HAS ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI TO
SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP LIBYAN AIR LINES GET ITS NEW
727'S IN OPERATION IN ABSENCE OF FRENCH PILOTS (TRIPOLI
REFTEL). BOEING REP TOLD US THAT BOEING DOES NOT WANT TO
BECOME INVOLVED WITH AIR FRANCE-LAA DISPUTE, BUT FELT IT HAD
TO DO SOMETHING IN VIEW OF ORDERS LIBYANS HAD PLACED WITH
BOEING. THESE INCLUDE THREE 737'S AND ONE 707 WITH "VIP
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INTERIOR" FOR RCC USE, AND THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY LIBYANS WILL BUY A 747. BOEING REP HAS RECOMMENDED THAT COMPANY SEND THREE PILOTS AND THREE FLIGHT ENGINEERS TO LIBYA TO HELP WITH PILOT TRAINING AS PART OF CONTRACT UNDER WHICH LIBYANS BROUGHT THREE 727'S, INSTEAD OF DOING TRAINING IN

SEATTLE. SIX MEN WILL STAY 90 DAYS AT MOST, IF COMPANY ACCEPTS RECOMMENDATION. IN ADDITION, ELEVEN-MAN BOEING TEAM IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE FROM SEATTLE APRIL 9, BOEING REP SAID, TO STUDY LAA OPERATIONS AND RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS. TEAM IS UNCONNECTED WITH LAA-AIR FRANCE DISPUTE.

2. MEANWHILE, FRENCH COUNSELOR TELLS US THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN AIR FRANCE AND LAA ARE CONTINUING, THAT CONTRACT HAS NOT BEEN INVALIDATED BY EITHER SIDE, AND THAT AIR FRANCE STILL HAS HOPES OF SETTLING DISPUTE. SINCE LIBYANS HAD TOLD BOEING REP THAT THEY WERE "FINISHED" WITH AIR FRANCE, HE WAS INTERESTED TO HEAR THIS.
STEIN

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